

replied to. I must assure the House, through you, that this Government has gone all-out to help the farmers and to ensure a better price for them. All the schemes of the rural development of the Rural Reconstruction Ministry are to help the agricultural production. Providing incentives for the higher production is aimed at the welfare of these farmers. I hope the farmers will realise that this government in spite of various difficulties and constraints has gone out of the way to look to the condition of the farmers and to give them better price and better incentives and a very high rate of subsidy in the matter of fertiliser, seeds, pesticides, insecticides, electricity, rates, canal water rates and various other things. I hope, by and large, the farmers already realise that this government is the only friend that the farmers in India can look to for help and that these exploiters and so-called leaders who are instigators and not in reality farmers' friends will not be able to strengthen their hold upon the sentiments of the farmers.

(The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock)

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at fourteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

(i) PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS COMMITTEE

SHRI BANSI LAL (Bhiwani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following:—

“That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule

312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri P. A. Sangma ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Deputy Minister.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri P. A. Sangma ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Deputy Minister.

The motion was adopted.

(ii) COMMITTEE OF THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED

SHRI R. R. BHOLE (Bombay-South Central): Sir, I beg to move the following:

“That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as member of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Baleswar Ram ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Minister of State.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one Member from among themselves to serve as a member of the committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Baleswar Ram ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Minister of State."

The motion was adopted.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL*—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Shiv Shankar on the 21st November, 1980, namely:—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969."

Mr. Chitta Basu, you wanted to say something on this.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Last Friday, I opposed the introduction of the Monopolies and Restricted Trade Practices (Amendment) Bill 1980. The grounds on which I want to oppose this Bill are:

First, as I have mentioned earlier, Article 39(C) of the Constitution precisely states that the operation of the economic system does not result in

the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment, that is, the Directive Principles of the Constitution.

My second argument is that this proposed Bill will result in the concentration of wealth and that would again be to the common detriment. Therefore, the spirit of Article 39C is being violated by this proposed Bill. Sir, you will know that the Bill also takes away the right of the MRTP Commission to sit in judgement as to whether a particular undertaking is a dominant undertaking. If that undertaking extends its capacity to produce goods for export and if that undertaking is engaged in extending its capacity for the purpose of export, then the wealth created, the assets created, by the process of export shall not be taken into account by the MRTP Act in the matter of determining the fact as to whether that particular Undertaking is dominant or not. Therefore, this is in flagrant violation of the basic objectives, of the MRTP Act which is sought to be amended by an Ordinance. The entire purpose of the MRTP Act is being defeated, is being negated by this amending proposal. Therefore, I do not say that the MRTP Act is a foolproof instrument in the matter of checking or arresting the concentration of wealth and assets. It has got certain teeth. But those teeth are being removed. That being the case, the MRTP Act will be rendered toothless, more ineffective and as a matter of fact, it will become infructuous.

My second objection is that this Bill is a deliberate attack on the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. I would like to stress on this point that the 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution was not merely a statement of the Government but that was also adopted by the then Parliament. That is the policy declaration of the Parliament, the higher forum of the nation. And this Bill seeks to defeat or

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2 dated 24-11-1980.